

REMARKS

This Amendment Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §114 is being filed subsequent to a Final Rejection dated December 31, 2002 and concurrently with the aforementioned RCE. Applicant notes that, in that Final Rejection, pending claims 1-27 have only been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-51 of US Patent No. 6,343,188.

By this Amendment, new claims 28-31 are added.

Applicant believes that newly added claims 28-31 are allowable over the art of record for at least similar reasons as for claims 13, 16, 19 and 22.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. If any outstanding issues remain, however, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

While Applicant believes no extension of time is necessary, should an extension of time be required to render this filing timely, such extension is hereby petitioned and the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4248US3. A

DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ENCLOSED.

Respectfully submitted,
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By:


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